

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00988 161846Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00

IO-14 EUR-25 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01 INRE-00 /150 W

----- 120036

O R 161725Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1632

INFO USMISSION USUN

S E C R E T NOUAKCHOTT 0988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF OGEN

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

REF: STATE 203889

1. NO PRESENT PROBLEM HERE IN HOLDING BACK DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS
THOUGH PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH WILL BE GLAD TO RECEIVE SOONEST
THE TYPE OF PERSONAL ASSURANCES OF OUR POLICY THAT THEY CONTAIN.
LEADERSHIP APPEARS THUS FAR DETERMINED MAINTAIN POSTURE OF
CONTORTIONIST, TRYING STAND AS TALL AS OTHER ARABS WHILE KEEPING
HEAD DOWN IN EFFORT AVOID DAMAGING US-MAURITANIAN RELATIONS.
HAVE ONLY THIS MORNING ARRANGED CONTINUATION AIRLIFT OF
EMERGENCY GRAIN SUPPLIES FOR MAURITANIA BY USAF C-130S BASED
IN NOUAKCHOTT AND MALI.

2. EVENING COMMENTARY STATERADIO OCT 15 WAS HIGHLY
TENDENTIOUS SERIES RHETORICAL QUESTIONS WHICH TWISTED MEANING
PRESIDENT NIXON'S STATEMENT (STATE 203897). ANNOUNCER RAGED
AT 'PROOF' US IS "READY TO INTERVENE MILITARILY IN MID-EAST....
THIS EXTREMELY GRAVE STATEMENT WAS PRECEDED BY THE STATE DEPART-
MENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF A GIGANTIC AIRLIFT FROM US TO RESUPPLY
THE ENEMY."

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3. FOREGOING WAS BROADCAST ONLY ONCE AND TODAY'S MININFO'S NEWSHEET, ONLY DAILY IN TOWN, CONTAINS MARKEDLY MORE CONTROLLED CRITICISM OF US "BALANCE OF POWER" POLICY IN MID-EAST. WHILE WE PROBABLY GET MORE FLACK, APPEARS THAT RADIO BROADCAST WAS PRODUCT OF MID-LEVEL MININFO STAFF WHICH HAVE NEVER BEEN WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS US AND WHO ON EARLIER OCCASIONS HAVE CAUSED EMBARRASSMENT AT CABINET AND PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL HERE.
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS MURPHY
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30 JUN 2005

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